

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A combination metal gasket:

wherein the combination metal gasket is formed by fitting a ring-shaped metal base elastic structure in at least one trough portion of two trough portions of a ring-shaped metal gasket that has an S-shaped longitudinal cross section, and wherein the metal base elastic structure contacts only in-plane side surfaces of the trough portion,

wherein the ring-shaped metal base elastic structure is a ring structure that has a U-shaped or V-shaped longitudinal cross section.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A combination metal gasket:

wherein the combination metal gasket is formed by fitting a ring-shaped metal base elastic structure in at least one trough portion of three trough portions of a metal gasket that has a substantially E-shaped longitudinal cross section, and wherein the metal base elastic structure contacts only in-plane side surfaces of the trough portion,

wherein the ring-shaped metal base elastic structure is a ring structure that has a U-shaped or V-shaped longitudinal cross section.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A seal ~~structure~~ assembly:

wherein the seal structure is formed by fitting a combination metal gasket set forth in claim 1 or 2 in between members being sealed.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A seal ~~structure~~ assembly as set forth in claim 4:

OK TO ENTER, YP, 4/15/05